DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

1976

1975

Feature Nominees

ROBERT ALTMAN
"NASHVILLE"
(Landscape Films-Paramount)
Unit Production Manager/First Assistant Director . Tommy Thompson
Second Assistant Director . . Alan Rudolph

MILOS FORMAN
"ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST"
(Fantasy Films-United Artists)
Unit Production Manager . . . Joel Douglas
First Assistant Director . . . . Irby Smith
Second Assistant Director William Saint John

STANLEY KUBRICK
"BARRY LYNDON"
(Stanley Kubrick-Warner Brothers)
Assistant Director . . . . . Brian Cook

SIDNEY LUMET
"DOG DAY AFTERNOON"
(Artists Entertainment Complex-Warner Brothers)
Assistant Director . . . . Burtt Harris
Second Assistant Director . . Alan Hopkins

STEVEN SPIELBERG
"JAWS"
(Universal Pictures)
Unit Production Managers . William Gilmore
Jim Fargo
First Assistant Director . . . Tom Joyner
Second Assistant Director . . Barbara Bass

Television Nominees

Comedy Series

HY AVERBACK
'BOMBED" (M°A°S°H)
(20th Century-Fox-CBS)
First Assistant Director . . . . Len Smith
Second Assistant Director . George Batcheller

HAL COOPER
"MAUDE" (Series)
(Tandem Productions-CBS)
Associate Director . . . Anthony Chickey
Stage Manager . . . . . Richard Draney

JOAN DARLING
"CHUCKLES BITES THE DUST" (Mary Tyler Moore Show)
Unit Production Manager . . Abner Singer
First Assistant Director . . . John Chulay
Second Assistant Director . . Bill Sheehan

Dramatic Series

JAMES CELLAN-JONES
"JENNIE, LADY RANDOLPH CHURCHILL"
(Series)
(WNET-PBS)
Associate Director . . . Michael Custance
Stage Manager . . . . . John Wayne

DAVID FRIEDKIN
"HOW CRUEL THE FROST, HOW BRIGHT THE STARS" (Kojak)
(Universal-CBS)
Unit Production Manager . . . Mel Bishop
First Assistant Director . . . Sam Freedle
Second Assistant Director . . . Art Seidel

GEORGE SCHAEFER
"SANDBURG'S LINCOLN" (Series)
(Wolper Productions-NBC)
First Assistant Director . . . . Don Torpin
Second Assistant Director . . . Wally Jones

Musical/Variety

BILL DAVIS
"JOHN DENVER-ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS"
(John-Jer Productions-ABC)
Associate Director . . . . Lee Bernhardi
Stage Manager . . . . . Nancy Heydorn

DWIGHT HEMION
"OUR LOVE IS HERE TO STAY"
(Smith & Hemion Prods.-CBS)
Associate Director . . . . . .
Stage Manager . . . . . .

JAY SANDRICH
"THE LILY TOMLIN SHOW"
(Omnipotent, Inc.-ABC)
First Assistant Director . . . John Chulay
Associate Director . . . Anthony Chickey
Second Assistant Director . James Woodworth

Documentary/News Specials

IRV DRASNIN
"CBS REPORTS: THE GUNS OF AUTUMN"
(CBS News)

MARTIN MORRIS
"KENNEDY ASSASSINATION"
(Good Night America)
(Maravilla Productions-ABC)
Associate Director . . . . Henry Niemark
Stage Manager . . . . . Ken Whelan

HOWARD STRINGER
"A TALE OF TWO IRELANDS" (CBS Reports)
(CBS News)

Specials

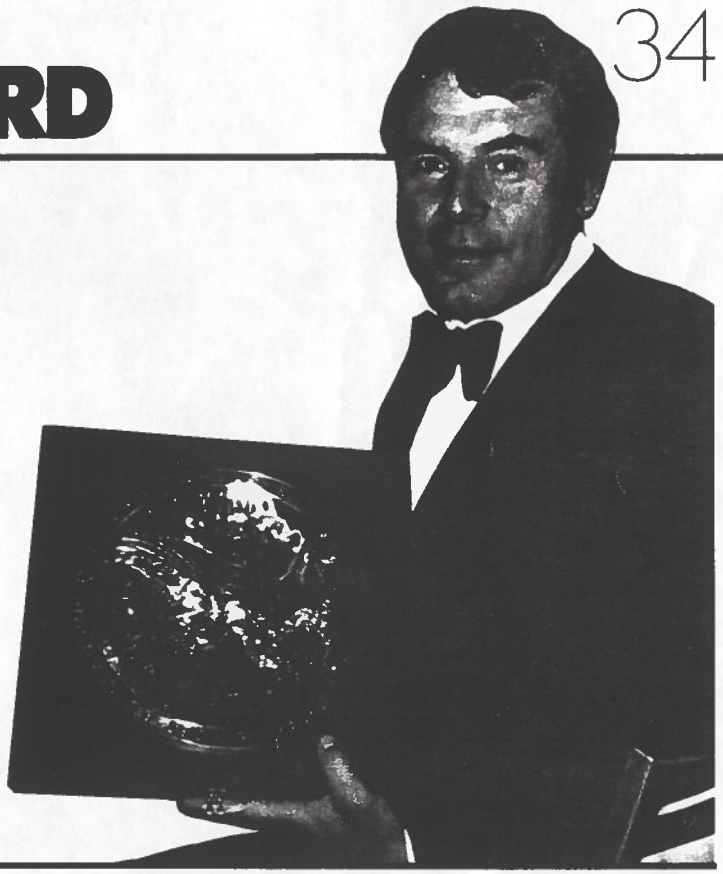
LAMONT JOHNSON
"FEAR ON TRIAL"
(Alan Landsburgh Prods.-CBS)
Unit Production Manager/First Assistant Director . . Kurt Neumann
Second Assistant Director . . Charles Norton

BUZZ KULIK
"BABE"
(Norman Felton/Stanley Rubin Prods.-CBS)
Unit Production Manager . Maurice Vaccarino
First Assistant Director . . . . Jay Daniels
Second Assistant Director . . Alan Brimfield

SAM O'STEEN
"QUEEN OF THE STARDUST BALLROOM"
(Tomorrow Entertainment-CBS)
Unit Production Manager . . . Chris Seitz
First Assistant Director . . . . Ken Swor
Second Assistant Director . Henry Lange, Jr.

BULLETIN BOARD

DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA AWARDS 1975



Milos Forman, for directorial achievement, 1975

George Bagnall, president of the Motion Picture and Television Fund, presents citations to David Butler and Robert Wise for their service to the Fund.

HOLLYWOOD PHOTOS BY SYLVIA NORRIS

The 28th awards of the Directors Guild of America were made to Milos Forman for features and Sam O'Steen for television. The winners for directorial achievement in 1975 were announced at dinners held in New York at the Tower Suite in the Time-Life Building and in Beverly Hills at the Hilton Hotel.

Forman won his award for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, O'Steen for *Queen of the Stardust Ballroom*, which was also voted the best TV special of the year.

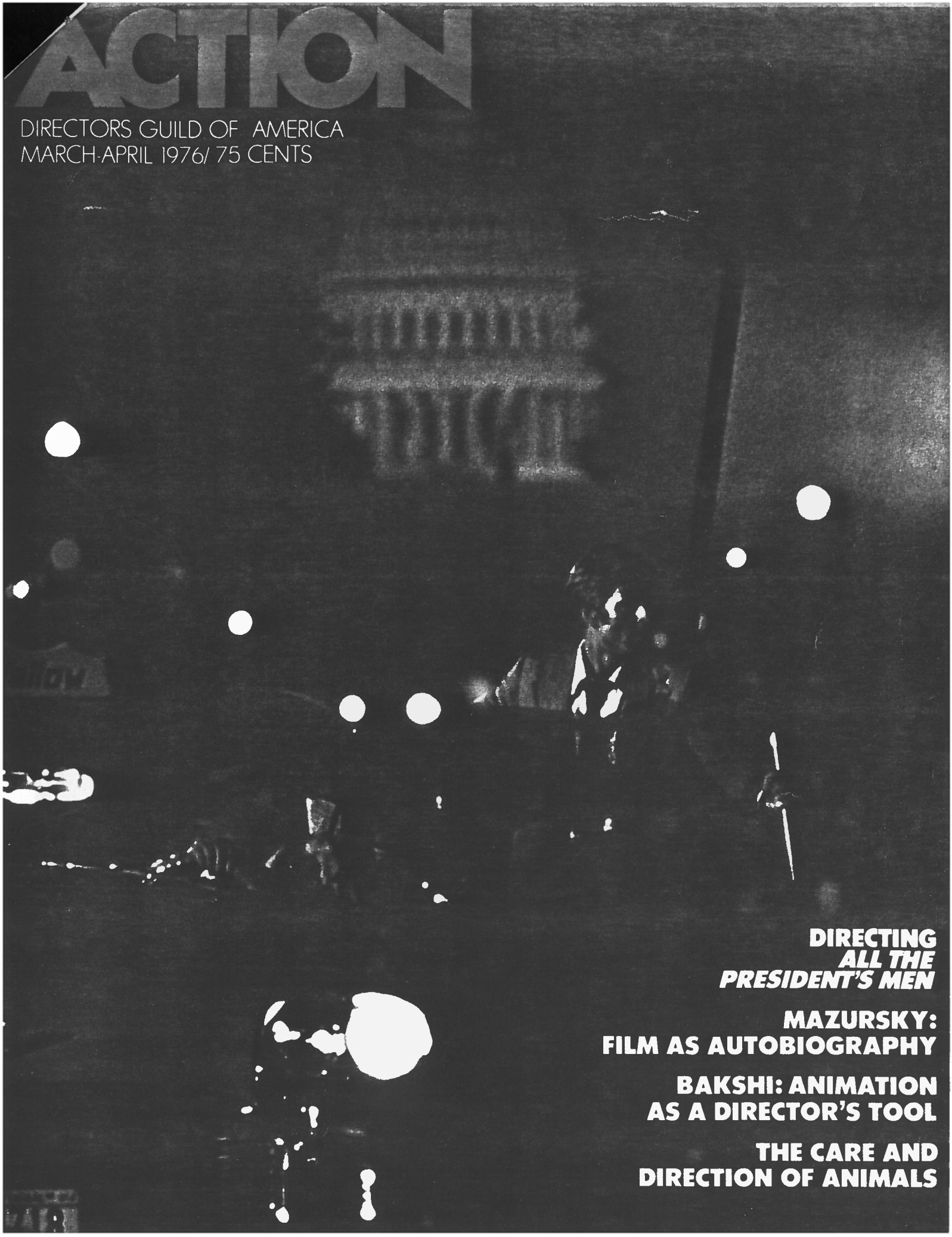
Winners in other TV categories:

Comedy series—Hy Averback, *Bombed, MASH*. Dramatic series—James Cellan-Jones, *Jenny, Lady Randolph Churchill*.

Musical-variety—Jay Sandrich, *The Lily Tomlin Show*. Documentary News specials—Irv Drasnin, *CBS Reports: The Guns of Autumn*.

ACTION

DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA
MARCH-APRIL 1976/ 75 CENTS



DIRECTING *ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN*

MAZURSKY: FILM AS AUTOBIOGRAPHY

BAKSHI: ANIMATION AS A DIRECTOR'S TOOL

THE CARE AND DIRECTION OF ANIMALS

DAILY VARIETY

VOL. 171, No. 12 | Hollywood, California-90028, Tuesday, March 23, 1976 | 20 Pages | 25 Cents

ABC/GOOD MORNING AMER
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NEW YORK, NY 10023

SHUN PROFITS WITHOUT HONOR

NARM Survey Takes A Look At Changing Demographics Of U.S. Record & Tape Buyers

By FRANK MEYER

Hollywood, Fla., March 22 — The changing demographics of the U.S. population came under serious study here through results of a survey commissioned by the National Association of Recording Merchandisers and presented at the Diplomat Hotel. A panel discussion which wound up with intense and often argumentative commentary from the membership followed. The report, a study of the record and tape buying habits of the 25-45-year-old age group was also concerned with those who do not buy records or tapes.

Buyers were defined as those who had purchased at least one album or tape during the preceding year and the survey itself, conducted and presented by Joseph Cohen, a masters degree candidate at New York's Baruch College who has extensive experience in the music business, took six months to prepare.

(Continued on Page 15, Column 1)

Pix, People, Pickups

"The First Time," Karl and Ann Taylor Fleming's book about the initial sex experiences of various celebs, will be filmed by Ray Stark, who plans to have half a dozen directors on the pic, each tackling a single episode. Rastar prez Herb Jaffe says filming is slated to begin early next year, with some Euro locationing.

* * *

Rastar has also made a deal with **Paramount Pictures** to film "The Best Bust Of All" (temporary title), crime pic scripted by Donald Westlake, with Mort Engelberg as producer. Planned for July start, pic will deal with an undercover police operation involving detectives impersonating members of a crime syndicate in an elaborate fencing operation. Deal also covers tv rights to the Westlake original.

* * *

Bob Solo has optioned a Thomas Nesi script, "Idaho Law," for his Solofilm outfit and Warner Bros. Adventure pic deals with vigilantes in Idaho circa 1860.

* * *

Richard Fleischer has been signed by Alexander and Ilya Salkind to direct "The Prince & The Pauper," Mark Twain

(Continued on Page 18, Column 3)

Dioscuri Prods. Asserts Claim To 'Bandersnatch'

New York, March 22 — John Lauricella, president of N.Y.-based Dioscuri Prods. Ltd., has asserted his claim to an "absolute right" as coproducer of the proposed film, "Bandersnatch," based on a Desmond Lowden novel.

Claim is included in Dioscuri's legal rejoinder to a suit filed in N.Y. Supreme Court by Leo Winter Associates, seeking an injunction prohibiting Dioscuri and Lauricella from claiming rights in the venture.

Film was to have been an actioner toplining Michael Caine and directed by John Avildsen.

(Continued on Page 18, Column 4)

CBS NOW OWNS 'HAWAII FIVE-O'

CBS-TV has acquired legal ownership of "Hawaii Five-O" from Leonard Freeman Prods., and henceforth will be producer of the cop series, which goes into its ninth season next fall. Widow of Freeman, who created the series which stars Jack Lord, will continue to have an interest in the show, partnered with CBS on a percentage basis.

Doug Greene has been named new producer of "Five-O," to be h.q.'d in Hawaii, where the show is lensed. He replaces Richard Newton. Philip Leacock continues as exec producer.

Curtis Kenyon and Herman Groves are story eds. Greene at one time was a first assistant director on the series.

Directors are being signed and scripts prepared for next season. Show had some ratings problems earlier in the season, but was moved at midsemester, and has made a comeback in the numbers, was tied for 22d in the last Nielsen. Production for new season begins May 10.

U.S. SUPREME COURT DENIES 'FAIRNESS' FOR B'CAST BLURBS

Washington, March 22 — The U.S. Supreme Court today denied another appeal demanding that the Federal Communications Commission apply the Fairness Doctrine to broadcast blurbs of so-called controversial products.

The top bench denied to review a decision by Boston's U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit that snowmobile ads by a Maine tv station were not controversial presentations that could be included in the Fairness Doctrine. Petitioner had contended that environmental impact of snowmobiles made their blurbs controversial.

The FCC in 1974 revised its doctrine with respect to blurbs, insisting most would not come under the doctrine. By denying to review the case, the Supreme Court upheld that revision, just as it did earlier this year in a case filed by Accuracy in Media.

In a related action, the agency last week denied reconsideration of that revision recently filed by AIM and the FCC's former general counsel, Henry Geller, repping the Committee For Open Media.

Hartke Tells NAB Tv Can't Hide Behind 1st Amendment To Make Bucks At Any Cost

Chicago, March 22—"The First Amendment is your defense and should always be such," Sen. Vance Hartke (D-Ind.) today told the television assembly of the National Association of Broadcasters convention here, "but you cannot hide behind the First Amendment as a defense for unlimited profits at any social cost." Broadcasters were paying particular attention to Hartke, as next year he may succeed the retiring Sen. John O. Pastore (D-R.I.) as chairman of the Senate communications subcommittee. And while NAB prez Vincent T. Wasilewski was blasting government attitudes toward broadcasting (see separate stories), Hartke was advocating some of the views so vigorously opposed by NAB.

With cable a major concern to broadcasters, they can hardly have been encouraged to hear Hartke say, "The First Amendment assures the access of multiple voices to the marketplace

(Continued on Page 6, Column 4)

Hard-Line Attack On Cable, Feevee From NAB Prexy

Chicago, March 22 — Stung by criticism that the National Association of Broadcasters has been out-lobbied by the National Cable Television Association in Washington, NAB prez Vincent T. Wasilewski devoted a major part of his address to the television assembly of the NAB convention today to a hard-line attack on cable and pay-cable. He was critical of the Federal Communications Commission, Congress, the White House and citizen groups — and even

(Continued on Page 6, Column 5)

MCA Mulls Expansion Moves

New York, March 22 — MCA Inc. is mulling a number of expansion moves in areas ranging from fast food restaurants to paperback publications, the company's president, Sid Sheinberg, told Dow Jones today.

Sheinberg said MCA is planning to enlarge its paperback publishing operations either by acquisition or by expansion of its Berkeley paperback line of G. P. Putnam's Sons, the publishing house acquired last year. "The acquisition of G. P. Putnam's Sons was just a beginning in the publishing business for us," said Sheinberg. "Expansion in the paperback field of which (Putnam's) has only a small share would be a natural."

MCA prexy said company expects to become "much more aggressive and larger" in exploring its opportunities in the merchandising of its tv and film products. One possibility, he added, is the setting up of a chain of fast food restaurants based on MCA's "Six Million Dollar Man" tv series.

"We're coming to realize that we have much more potential in our assets than we previously realized," Sheinberg asserted. He noted that the "Six Million Dollar Man" doll licensed by MCA and made by Kenner was one of the best-selling toys last Christmas.

MCA is also considering getting into the distribution of its cable tv product previously handled by third parties. "We're such a big factor in the production of material for cable television there's no need for us to rely on someone else to distribute our product to cable television systems," said Shein-

(Continued on Page 18, Column 1)

SAG Dom. Tv Resids Up 37.3% In February

Screen Actors Guild members saw a 37.3% increase in domestic tv resids collected during February.

Amount collected totaled $1,011,702.07. A SAG spokesman said increase is because of the union's new contract with the film industry.

Domestic resids collected from November to February totaled $4,031,991.71, a 40% increase over the same period in the preceding year.

Mary Gardiner Jones 1st MCA Bd. Woman

First woman board member of MCA Inc. is Mary Gardiner Jones, a former member of the Federal Trade Commission (1964-73). She recently has been a full professor in the colleges of law and biz administration at University of Illinois.

Jones, a Wellesley grad and later Yale Law School, in 1948 joined N.Y. law firm of Donovan, Leisure, Newton & Irvine. Later she was in the N.Y. office of the antitrust section of the Dept. of Justice. In 1961 she joined Webster, Sheffield, Fleishmann, Hitchcock and Chrystie. She also was in the OSS, leaving in 1946.

MARY GARDINER JONES

(Continued on Page 18, Column 1)

LIBERACE

NOW TAKING A BRIEF VACATION

AUSTRALIAN TOUR APRIL 19 THRU MAY 6
CANADIAN TOUR MAY 17-29

SEYMOUR HELLER, Personal Management
JAMIE JAMES, Publicity

DIRECTORS GUILD

Extends Heartiest Congratulations to O

NOMINATED FOR MOST OUTSTANDING DIRECTORIAL ACHIEVEMENT IN MOTION PICTURES

ROBERT ALTMAN
"Nashville"
(Landscape Films — Paramount)

MILOS FORMAN
"One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest"
(Fantasy Films — United Artists)

STANLEY KUBRICK
"Barry Lyndon"
(Stanley Kubrick — Warner Bros.)

SIDNEY LUMET
"Dog Day Afternoon"
(Artists Entertainment Complex — Warner Bros.)

STEVEN SPIELBERG
"Jaws"
(Universal Pictures)

CHOSEN FOR MOST OUTSTANDING DIRECTORIAL ACHIEVEMENT IN TELEVISION CATEGORIES

(Comedy Series)
HY AVERBACK
"Bombed" (M*A*S*H)
(20th Century-Fox — CBS)

(Dramatic Series)
JAMES CELLAN-JONES
"Jennie, Lady Randolph Churchill"
(WNET — PBS)

(Musical/Variety)
JAY SANDRICH
"The Lily Tomlin Show"
(Omnipotent, Inc. — ABC)

(Documentary-News Specials)
IRV DRASNIN
"CBS Reports: The Guns of Autumn"
(CBS News)

(Specials)
SAM O'STEEN
"Queen of the Stardust Ballroom"
(Tomorrow Entertainment — CBS)

OF AMERICA, INC.

ur 1975 Award Nominees and Winners

The Winners

MOST OUTSTANDING DIRECTORIAL ACHIEVEMENT IN MOTION PICTURES

MILOS FORMAN

"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
(Fantasy Films — United Artists)
Unit Production Manager: Joel Douglas
First Assistant Director: Irby Smith
Second Assistant Director: William Saint John

MOST OUTSTANDING DIRECTORIAL ACHIEVEMENT IN TELEVISION

SAM O'STEEN

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Unit Production Manager: Chris Seitz
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HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

LEW R. WASSERMAN

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DAVID BUTLER

ROBERT WISE

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NEW YORK, NY 10023
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International Edition

The Hollywood Reporter

Vol. CCXL, No. 37 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, March 23, 1976 Price 25 Cents

Tel-Aviv

Shooting ended this week in Eilat on the Menahem Golan western "Vendetta," but Lee Van Cleef and Leif Garrett will stay on in Israel to star in another western, "God's Gun," also to be produced in Eilat by Golan and directed by Italian Frank Kremer. The new western will also star Jack Palance, who arrives in Israel for the start of shooting at the end of this month.

Archaelogist Dr. Hugh Schonfield, author of the book "The Passover Plot," arrived in Israel to visit the location of

(Continued on Page 14)

Rome

The five American distribution companies, all in the first 10 here are handling one-third of the product released on the Italian market although U.S. product being released by all distribution houses is 25.8%. This is largely due to the success of the such Italian features as "What Sign Are You?" distributed by PIC (Warners) and "The Boss and the Worker" (United Artists). In the first 10 are five American features, "Jaws," second, "The Godfather, Part II," fourth, "The Three

(Continued on Page 14)

Sydney

Organizers of Australia's Logie Awards (Down Under Emmys) were not amused when Jack Palance backed off as one of the invited guests of honor to present them a couple of days before the big night in Melbourne. Lee Marvin, Martin Milner and Henry Winkler turned up from America as did England's Susannah York and Gordon Jackson. An unofficial report is that Palance didn't want to share the limelight with Marvin.

Norman Gunston, who won the Gold

(Continued on Page 14)

Mexico

Mexican film dignitaries, headed by Lic. Rodolfo Echeverria, general director of the National Cinematographic Bank, will come to Hollywood next week to attend the annual Academy Awards event. This year "Letters From Marusia," a Miguel Littin film, has been nominated for an "Oscar" as Best Foreign Film. All Mexico is hopeful that Oscar-nominated "Letters From Marusia" will win the coveted Best Foreign Film Award.

(Continued on Page 15)

No Fairness Doctrine For Blurbs, High Court

Washington — The Supreme Court yesterday upheld the policy of the Federal Communications Commission, which excludes radio and TV commercials from the Fairness Doctrine. Broadcasters will continue not to be required to give equal time to persons who oppose what is said in these media about advertised products.

In the case on which the judges let the earlier decision stand, critics of snowmobiles in Maine had argued they were entitled to have equal time to answer television and radio advertisements for the vehicles.

Local 695 Battles IA on Crew Size

BY GERRY LEVIN

The battling Sound Technicians Local 695 will try to strike a crucial blow against its IATSE parent body and president Ed Diehl tomorrow night at its Board of Directors' meeting when a motion "prohibiting any union member from working on a two-man sound crew" under threat of fine will be introduced. Local 695 has been demanding three-man sound crews in all major studio production.

If the motion is passed, union members are expected to refuse work at any studio calling for a two-man crew . . . an issue which Local 695 accused Diehl of "selling out" on last week with the AMPTP. Diehl had threatened a strike and won the 15% studio pay hike demand denied Locals 695 and 776 by the AMPTP's Ed Prelock.

It is understood that AIP would be

(Continued on Page 13)

'Story of Edgar Cayce' Slated by Henry Gellis

Producer Henry Gellis has acquired the rights to the novel "A Prophet In His Own Country: A Story of Edgar Cayce."

Author Jess Stearn will co-write the screenplay with another writer being sought by Gellis. Rights were secured from The Association For Research and Enlightenment.

Project is tentatively set to go before the cameras before the end of the year.

'Kitchen,' 'Dybbuk,' 'Been' Drama Tops

Hollywood Today

MCA Reveals Expansion Plans ..... p. 12
Filmex Premiere ..... p. 13
Today at Filmex ..... p. 13
Wolper, McCutchen Develop 'Lost Prince' .. p. 13

BY RON PENNINGTON

"Are You Now or Have You Ever Been?" "The Dybbuk" and "The Kitchen" were honored by the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle with four awards each, including nods as outstanding productions of 1975, during the group's seventh annual theatre awards dinner Sunday night at Pike's Verdugo Oaks restaurant in Glendale.

The LADCC awards are based on distinguished achievement rather than "best" so there were multiple awards in most categories. All together the critics voted a total of 32 awards, six of which were for distinguished production. The other winners in this area were the Shakespeare Society of America's production "Cyrano de Bergerac," which took a total of three awards; John Houseman's City Center Acting Co. production of "Edward II," and the Extraordinary Theatre production of

(Continued on Page 4)

Wasilewski Raps Format Decision

Chicago — Vincent Wasilewski, president of the National Assn. of Broadcasters, called a court decision that requires the FCC to rule on programming format changes a bureaucratic nightmare.

Speaking at the opening session of the trade association's 54th annual convention, he said "We must fight every government intrusion in that area, for it constitutes a First Amendment intrusion which we cannot

(Continued on Page 13)

Rastar Gets Film, TV Rights to 'First Time'

Motion picture and TV rights to "The First Time," best-selling Simon and Schuster book, have been acquired by Rastar, with plans for the project to encompass a half-dozen top directors each working on a single episode for the multi-story picture.

Assembled and written by Karl and Ann Taylor Fleming, the story concerns "the fascinating and intimate celebrity recounting of their sexual experiences."

Filming is scheduled for early 1977 in Hollywood and on location in Europe.

Paramount, Rastar Films Acquire 'Best Bust'

Paramount Pictures and Rastar Films have acquired motion picture and TV rights to Donald Westlake's original screen treatment "The Best Bust of All" (a temporary title), it was announced today by Richard Sylbert, Paramount

(Continued on Page 13)

AGVA's Singleton Opens Contract Talks

BY CHARLES A. BARRETT

Penny Singleton, president, American Guild of Variety Artists, is in New York today opening the first of four collective bargaining agreements for new three-year contracts.

Singleton is meeting with bargaining heads for Ringling Bros. Circus, which employs some 600 AGVA members. She will also be opening talks with Radio City Music Hall, The Ice Capades and

(Continued on Page 13)

Mary Jones Elected To Board of MCA

Mary Gardiner Jones, a former member of the Federal Trade Commission, has become the first woman to be elected a member of the board of directors of MCA Inc.

Until recently she was a full professor in the colleges of law and commerce business administration at the University of Illinois. She was appointed to the Federal Trade Commission in 1964, serving until 1973.

"mr. showmanship"
Liberace
NOW TAKING A BRIEF VACATION
— OPENS AUSTRALIAN TOUR —
APRIL 19th thru MAY 6th
— CANADIAN TOUR —
MAY 17th thru 29th
Seymour Heller, Personal Manager • Jamie James, Public Relations

DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA, INC.

Extends Heartiest Congratulations to Our 1975 Award Nominees and Winners

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SPECIAL CITATIONS FROM THE MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION FUND

DAVID BUTLER

ROBERT WISE

New York Sound Track

Danish distributor **Bent Tomming** back to Copenhagen after busy acquisition of product here. He did well but had to bypass one "money hungry" Yank distributor who had "delusions of grandeur" about the worth of his product ... Writer-producer **Andrew J. Fenady** has signed **Goyakla Colorados,** last living son of **Geronimo,** as technical advisor on his "Tom Horn and the Apache Kid," to shoot late summer in Tucson and Durango ... **Alexander** and **Ilya Salkind** have signed **Richard Fleischer** to direct their big-budget version of **Mark Twain's** "The Prince And The Pauper," to go early May in Hungary and Austria from screenplay by **George Macdonald Fraser** based on a script by **Berta Dominguez. Pierre Spengler** will produce.

Samuel Marx who recently wrote and published the "Mayer & Thalberg" recall volume reviewed recently by *Variety* has another book due out, this one a collaboration with **Jan Clayton:** Putnam has taken it, title is **"Rodgers & Hart: Bewitched, Bothered & Bedeviled."**

Avco Embassy's "Moses," toplining **Burt Lancaster** as the parter of seas, opens at the Ziegfeld Theatre, March 26. "Give 'Em Hell, Harry," Truman closeup impersonated by **James Whitmore,** bows on showcase in 50 spots in the N.Y. metro area, today (24).

In a recent volume, "Art On The Edge" (MacMillan; $12.95) **Harold Rosenberg,** commonly rated a top U.S. art critic, has 14 indexed references to the offbeat filmmaker and sometime painter **Andy Warhol.** None are favorable. Warhol is grouped with latterday "art world stars whose talent consists of attracting attention to themselves and who have brought on the degradation of the art object." Also scorned is Warhol's "deliberately platitudinous sex symbols."

Liv Ullmann arrives in N.Y. April 1 from Oslo to promote **Ingmar Bergman's** "Face to Face" which bows at the Beekman April 4 via **Dino De Laurentiis** and Paramount. Ullmann will also visit Boston, Chicago, L.A. and Washington where she will be the guest of the American Film Institute ... **Chris and Bob Wills,** exponents of the current hang glider craze, off on a 10-city personals tour to hypo **Sandy Howard's** "Sky Riders" for 20th-Fox ... 20th's "The Duchess and the Dirtwater Fox" bows in N.Y. April 7 on a showcase track which includes the National, Trans-Lux East and 86th St. East in Manhattan ... Crown International Pictures has firmed an agreement for New World Pictures of Pittsburgh to handle its product in the Pittsburgh territory.

John Madjek, formerly in Cinematte Theatres, has been appointed sales manager under the supervision of **Morris Zryl** to set engagements for Crown's "Las Vegas Lady," "Death Machines," "The Pom Pom Girls" and "Hustler Squad" ... Writer-director **Joel M. Reed** and producer **Alan C. Margolin** have wound principal photography in N.Y. on "Sardu," an indie horror item ... 20th opens **Sandy Howard's** "Sky Riders" at 62 Blue Ribbon showcase sites on Fri. (26).

Marco St. John and **Ted Beniades** in **Martin Bregman's** "The Next Man" for Allied Artists. Lensing on the pic at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel ground to a halt temporarily last Fri. (19) when **Mrs. Betty Ford's** limo drove into the caravansary's lower entrance and during a garage scene in progress ... **Jeremy** ("The Candidate") **Larner** to script Universal's "Victory," based on a **Joseph Conrad** novel ... **Michael Ontkean** in **George Roy Hill's** "Slap Shot" with **Paul Newman** for Universal ... Production has commenced on **Ralph** ("Coonskin") **Bakshi's** "The Lord of the Rings" for Metro. Pic based on the classic trilogy by **J.R.R. Tolkien** will combine live action and animation ... Painter **Dong Kingman's** film short "Hong Kong Dong" has been selected for inclusion in the San Francisco Film Festival.

Ken Russell's "Mahler," being distributed by Specialty Films, will bow April 4 at the D.W. Griffith. It was reviewed in the April 10, 1974 issue of *Variety* ... First commercial Gotham showing of **Abel Gance's** "Bonaparte" (his 1971 version of the "Napoleon" film of 1927) will be given April 4 at the Carnegie Hall Cinema, under auspices of The Thousand Eyes film society ... The current series of new French films at the Museum of Modern Art will be followed, April 2-14, by New Directors/New Films, an annual series. On April 23 the MMA will hold a symposium, "The Birth of the Cinema," to mark the 80th anniversary of the first public projection of **Thomas Edison's** Vitascope. Dept. of film director **Ted Perry** will moderate a panel of experts from three universities. April 15-May 13 will be a continuation of the MMA's "Films From The Archive."

Variety Club of So. California, Tent 25, will stage its third annual Telethon 76 on May 1 over KTLA-TV, Channel 5, per president **Milton I. Moritz.** General chairman **Thomas W. Fenno** will be assisted by **Floyd H. Coverston Jr.** and **Murray Propper** ... Writer **Eleanor Perry** will deliver the second annual **Marvin Borowsky** Distinguished Lectureship in Screenwriting on April 5 in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences' new Goldwyn Theatre, with the public invited for the first time. ... **Robert Shaw** will be a master of ceremonies on Monday's (29th) Oscar television show ... Scientific and technical achievement Oscars will be disclosed today (24) ... **Marilyn Hassett** and **Beau Bridges** will be presenters on the Academy Award telecast.

Liv Ullmann in town for the April 4 premiere of **Ingmar Bergman's** "Face To Face" at the Beekman, in which she is the female lead ... **David Darby's** "Sweet Punkin' " being tradescreened tomorrow (25) ... **Burt Bacharach** and **Angie Dickinson** (Mrs. B.) will team as presenters on the Oscarcast ...

Robert Steuer, AIP southern division sales manager, back from Show-A-Rama confab where he screened footage of "The Great Scout and Cathouse Thursday," "A Small Town In Texas" and "Food of the Gods" ... **Mildred Simpson,** librarian of the Margaret Herrick Library of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, lectures on "What's In An Archive For A Teacher of Film" on Sat. (27) at the National Conference on the Teaching of Film at the U. of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

New York Amsterdam News hosts a preview of Warner Bros.' "Sparkle" Mon. (29) at the Cinerama Theatre in conjunction with the Citizens Action for a Safer Harlem. Pic opens April 7 at the preview site, 86th St. East and Five Towns ... Group One Films' "Giant Spider Invasion" grossed $179,000 in 27 L.A. situations for the week ended March 2 ... WB's "Hot Potato" bows on showcase April 7 paired with a reissue of "Enter the Dragon" ... Paramount participated in the just-wound College Expo in Daytona Beach with nightly screenings of its "Lifeguard" pick-up.

'GERMANY IN RUINS' FOR OBERHAUSEN

Oberhausen, March 23.

"Germany in Ruins — Film Documents From The Years 1945-'59" is the title of a special retrospective coinciding with the Oberhausen Documentary Week.

Event takes place from April 25 to 30 here, with documentary material obtained from the Federal government film archives and private sources. Newsreels, documentaries, and some full-length feature films which have scarcely been viewed before are included.

Topics like the flourishing black market, the gradual rebuilding and regrowth of the country after the Nazi regime will be covered in the film presentations.

Directors Guild's Best: Milos Forman

The 1976 Directors Guild of America annual awards, held simultaneously last Sat. (20) in New York and Los Angeles, found the "best film director" accolade for 1975 going to Czech director Milos Forman for "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest," his second American-made effort which United Artists is releasing. If tradition is followed, he'll also win the Academy's "directing" award for the effort.

Winners in the five television categories were Hy Averback for the "Bombed" segment of "Mash" for comedy; James Cellan-Jones for "Jennie" in the dramatic series; Jay Sandrich for "The Lily Tomlin Show" in musical-variety; Irv Drasnin for "CBS Reports: The Guns of Autumn" for documentary-news specials; and Sam O'Steen for "Queen of the Stardust Ballroom" for specials. O'Steen also won the overall "television director of the year" award.

The Coast awards dinner was hosted by Delbert Mann. The Eastern affair, held at the Tower Suite, was helmed by Gilbert Cates. DGA president Robert Aldrich, currently in Germany filming "Twilight's Last Gleaming" sent along regrets.

Entertainment in New York was provided by comic Chevy Chase as emcee; comic Robert Klein and singers Stephanie Mills and Deedee Bridgewater, doubling from "The Wiz." Only awardees on hand in Gotham were Cellan-Jones and Drasnin.

Crisis Salvage Of Filmex Gala, Embarrassment At Century Plaza

Hollywood, March 23.

Sunday night's $125-a-ticket gala tribute to Alfred Hitchcock at the Century Plaza Hotel after the Los Angeles Film Exposition's opening night world preem of Hitchcock's "Family Plot" was almost cancelled Friday. Due to delinquent payments by Filmex for last year's opening night gala, part of the hotel ballroom had been rented out to another group, and frantic behind-the-scenes efforts finally resulted in clearance of the room for Filmex by Friday afternoon.

"It could have been the foul-up of the year," said a Universal Pictures spokesman. Various U. personnel had been working behind the scenes to help avert embarrassment to Hitchcock on the night of the preem of his 53d film.

The ballroom, which holds up to 2,000 people (and coincidentally was the site of the snafu-riddled American Film Institute tribute to William Wyler March 9), was skedded for use by a Kinney Shoe Co. convention, and Kinney had been planning to set up and rehearse a show in part of the room. Filmex only learned of the conflict in the last two weeks, and a compromise was finally reached, with the Kinney people not using the room until the wee night hours after the Hitchcock tribute.

Filmex director Gary Essert said Filmex made the reservation for the room a year ago, but fell about $8,000 in arrears on payments by last fall, so the hotel then put the reservation on an indefinite basis, without notifying Filmex of the conflict with Kinney until weeks after the bill was settled in January. Essert accused the hotel of failing to live up to an agreement to warn Filmex of any possible conflict, but hotel spokesman, admitting the lateness of the notification, said, "We have our differences of opinion" on the nature of the agreement.

Filmex gave the hotel a certified check for about $20,000 Friday afternoon to make sure the dinner would be held. Essert, angry at the turn of events, vowed that Filmex would never use that hotel for its programs in the future, and said Filmex is also thinking of moving entirely out of Century City next year.

A hotel spokesman said the confusion possibly resulted from having to deal with various Filmex committee personnel, but added the top Filmex brass are "pretty responsible people."

Filmex opening night, which about 1,200 people were expected to attend, is the major fund-raising event for the five-year-old film festival, and cancelling the program would have been a financial catastrophe.

Though Filmex last year made record profits, Essert said they "weren't enough" to ensure proper sked of payments to the hotel.

Wasserman Sans Megaphone

Hollywood, March 23.

Sheldon Leonard emceed the Coast affair. The one-hour awards show, directed by Bill Davis, also enrolled MCA chairman Lew R. Wasserman as an honorary DGA life member, while Motion Picture & TV Fund president George Bagnall conferred special service awards to veteran directors David Butler and to Robert Wise, for thier MPTF efforts.

Bob Hope, who was to have appeared with late-cancelling Bing Crosby, soloed in a 10-minute smile-a-thon largely devoted to Butler's career, also used as a springboard for some okay jabs at current headlines and Hollywood folkways. Hope cracked that Crosby was "at home with a sick friend, Ronald Reagan," adding that (in light of Reagan's insistent tv assurances he's still shooting for a presidential nomination) the ex-governor of California "seems to be working for an Emmy."

Wasserman, in accepting his honorary life membership and the fancy director's chair that came with it, noted briefly the upbeat implications of resurgent theatrical film business, tv's innovations in program forms, and the anticipated boom of home entertainment systems. Wise touched on Wasserman's efforts in many industry matters, including collective bargaining negotiations.

Butler, a major director for nearly 50 years, worked mostly at Paramount and later Warner Bros. At Par, his work included "The Road To Morocco," inspiring Hope to sing a parody chorus of title tune saluting Butler. It was too bad that Crosby didn't make it; there is the sense that an auspicious moment in Hollywood nostalgia has been missed.

Paramount's "Lipstick," skedded for release next month, is being scored by Michel Polnareff, Euro pop composer who has previously scored films overseas. Film is a Freddie Fields production for Dino De Laurentiis and Par.

Janus Vs. Budget Is 'Federal'

California Shuns Jurisdiction On '39 Steps,' 'Pygmalion' Rights Dispute

Hollywood, March 23.

Janus Films Inc. has taken its copyright fight with Budget Films Inc. over two classics, "39 Steps" and "Pygmalion," to the California Supreme Court.

Alleging Budget has been distributing unauthorized prints, Janus has so far lost the first two rounds on jurisdictional grounds that the case should be in the Federal rather than state courts.

Most recently, a three-man appellate court unanimously upheld Los Angeles Superior Court judge Jerry Pacht's summary ruling in favor of Budget, deciding Janus' claim for damages and an injunction were a Federal issue.

Reviewing the issue, the Appeals Court said Budget paid $644 and swapped other prints for the dupes, which Budget contends are in the public domain. In contrast, Janus paid $35,000 for exclusive distribution rights to the same films.

Although Janus claims the case involves unfair competition within state jurisdiction, the judges disagreed. "We are convinced that the present controversy between Janus and Budget is essentially a suit alleging copyright infringement ... If Budget's distribution is without authorization from those who can control the exploitation of the films by virtue of certain copyrights, then that distribution would be an infringement of those copyrights," Judge J. Cobey wrote.

"We can think of no better example than the case before us now of a cause of action that arises under Federal copyright law," he added. "To decide this appeal in Janus' favor would allow a party which is essentially complaining of copyright infringement the choice of a state or Federal forum in which to litigate its claim. Such concurrent jurisdiction would run counter to the clear intent of Congress that there be a national and uniform system of copyright and copyright enforcement."

Short Sci Fare Sesh

Hollywood, March 23.

Producers of short scientific films and videotapes will compete in connection with the International Scientific Film Assn. convention Aug. 8-14 in Philadelphia.

Association is seeking entries in three categories: Scientific productions for general public, higher scientific education and scientific research. Programs must have been made since May 1, 1974 and, preferably, run less than 20 minutes.

Delegates from two dozen nations are expected.